

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BANJUL 00648 240834Z  
ACTION INR-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 H-01  
CIAE-00 NSAE-00 DODE-00 MCT-01 /050 W  
-----038101 241347Z /53

R 220855Z APR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY BANJUL  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5461  
INFO AMEMBASSY DAKAR POUCH

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANJUL 0648

DEPARTMENT FOR INR/RNA

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PDIP PLO GA  
SUBJ: GAMBIAN RELATIONS WITH PLO

REF: STATE 091578

1. GOTG RECOGNIZES PLO WITH WHICH IT HAS HAD DIPLOMATIC TIES FOR SEVERAL YEARS.
2. POST RECORDS FOR 1975 ARE INCOMPLETE BUT WE RECALL THAT PLO REPRESENTATIVE OPENED OFFICE IN BANJUL IN EARLY 1975, THAT HE ATTENDED SEVERAL DIPLOMATIC FUNCTINS, AND ACHIEVED LOCAL STATUS AS PLO REPRESENTATIVE. INDIVIDUAL DISAPPEARED SEVERAL MONTHS LATER AND HIS ESENTIALLY ONE-MAN OFFICE SUBSEQUENTLY CEASED TO FUNCTION.
3. CHECK WITH MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS CONFIRMS THE PLO DOES NOT PRESENTLY HAVE ANY PHYSICAL PRESENSE IN BANJUL, NOR DO ANY OTHER ELEMENTS OF PALESTINIAN MOVEMENT.
4. PRESENSE OF LARGE LIBYAN EMBASSY IN BANJUL (ESTABLISHED IN LATE 1975, NOW NUMBER AT LEAST 20 DIPLOMATS AND OTHER INDIVIDUALS) WOULD LEAD ONE TO SUSPECT THAT PALESTINIAN INTERESTS ARE LOCALLY CONFIDENTIAL

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HANDLED BY LIBYANS. PRESUMABLY SOME PALESTINIANS MAY BE OPERATING IN LIBYAN EMBASSY HERE, BUT THUS FAR THIS IS MERE SPECULATION. LEBANESE COMMUNITY IN THE GAMBIA NUMBERS IN HUNDREDS, INCLUDING MANY RESIDENTS WHOSE FAMILY PRESENSE DATES BACK TO XIXTH CENTURY. LEBANESE INCLUDE BOTH CHRISTIANS AND MUSLIMS, WITH POSSIBILITY THAT PALESTINIANS COULD BE PRESENT LOCALLY UNDER LEBANESE COVER.  
WYGANT

NOTE BY OCT: MESSAGE DELAYED IN TRANSITION.

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PALESTINIANS, LIBERATION FRONTS, ESTABLISHMENT OF OFFICES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 22 apr 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978BANJUL00648  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780174-0598  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**SAS ID:** 2882514  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** GAMBIAN RELATIONS WITH PLO  
**TAGS:** PDIP, PLOS, GA, PLO  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
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